

**Chiefs' mascot visits school**

Talks with students about making good choices

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Fort Riley Post

Trooper girls hit barrier

Topeka Logan teams bring tower power

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Wednesday, November 10, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 47, No. 45

Around The Army**Fort Belvoir:**

The Eagle reported Nov. 4 that people in the Self Help and Resource Exchange Program who volunteered two hours of service on post could buy groceries at a reduced price.

After volunteering two hours, participants can buy food packages for \$16. The packages contain meats, vegetables and other items with a total value ranging \$30 to \$35.

The October value packages included pork chops, chicken thighs, spaghetti, soup mix, potatoes, onions, bananas and chocolate fudge pudding.

For more about this story and other Fort Belvoir news, visit www.belvoir.eagle.com on the Web.

Fort Jackson:

The Leader reported Nov. 4 that new lieutenants attending the Adjutant General Officer Basic Course worked on a community service project of their choice. The 63 officers decided to stretch themselves across the Columbia area and across generations as well. They began their outreach Oct. 20 at the Village of Hope Community Center, operated by the Boys and Girls Club, where they helped transform a housing area into a gathering place for youth. They renovated two apartments, painted another two and planted trees throughout the area.

For more about this story and other Fort Jackson news, visit www.fortjacksonleader.com on the Web.

Fort Lee:

The Traveller reported Oct. 28 that marchers circled the post Oct. 22 in support of victims of family violence. The march was part of the post-wide efforts to educate the community on the prevalence of family violence and the steps people can take to stop or prevent it.

For more about this story and other Fort Lee News, visit www.lee.army.mil/pao/travellerarchives on the Web.

Walter Reed:

The Stripe reported Nov. 5 that for the second time in three years, a Soldier-medic is the Army representative receiving the American Legion's Spirit of Service Award. The award honors volunteer services by military personnel in the rank of sergeant and below.

The 2004 Army recipient is Spc. Russell A. Burnham, who works in the emergency room of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Burnham was also named the Army's Soldier of the Year for 2003.

Spc. Eric D. Hall of the Lawrence Joel Army Health Clinic at Fort McPherson, Ga., won the legion award in 2002.

The Spirit of Service Award was presented Aug. 31 at the legion's 86th national convention in Nashville, Tenn.

John Brieden, national commander of the 2.7-million-member legion, cited Burnham's volunteer work with the Boy Scouts of America.

For more about this story and other Walter Reed Army Medical Center news, visit www.dcmilitary.com/army/stripe on the Web.

Tank crew fires perfect score

By April Blackmon

Staff writer

Four Soldiers from Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, achieved perfection Oct. 27. Sgt. 1st Class Damon Darroch, Sgt. William Griffith, Pfc. Jason Ayala and Pfc. Jacob Braden shot a 1,000 score on Tank Table 8 during the battalion's gunnery training at the Multipurpose Range Complex.

Nobody could remember the last time a Fort Riley tank crew shot a 1,000, said Fort Riley

tank master gunner, Sgt. 1st Class John Harris.

"It's been at least 20 years, if not longer," he said.

Table 8 is a series of day and night, stationary and moving, targeting scenarios that challenge a tank crew to quickly acquire the target, make positive identification and destroy it using a .50-caliber machine gun, the M240 coaxial machine gun and the 120mm main gun on the M1A1 Abrams tank.

"For us to qualify our tanks, we shoot tables



Sgt. 1st Class D. Darroch



Sgt. William Griffith



Pfc. Jacob Braden



Pfc. Jason Ayala

See Perfect, Page 2

Riders face limits on post

Off-roaders restricted to roads, trails

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

Off-road vehicle enthusiasts face limitations if they want to ride on Fort Riley, warns Staff Sgt. Michael Barnes, civilian liaison for the post's Provost Marshal. "It would be wiser for them to ride in approved areas off Fort Riley," he said.

Two recent complaints about people riding ORVs on post prompted the Provost Marshal's Office staff to take a closer look at policies and regulations governing use of all-terrain vehicles, mopeds and dirt bikes. Barnes said he found the Commanding General's Policy 04-02 and Fort Riley Regulation 210-15 severely limits ORV riding on post.

Barnes described an ORV as a moped, dirt bike or three- or four-wheeled all-terrain vehicle. The commanding general's policy restricts ORVs that are licensed and registered to be ridden on public streets and roads to use on Fort Riley streets and on trails that are marked on a map and have no vegetation growing between the edges of the trail.

Basically, that means only trails that are well traveled and therefore have no vegetation growing on them can be used by riders with licensed ORVs, Barnes said. ORVs cannot be ridden on trails that aren't used enough by

See Riders, Page 3

More MOUT

Trainers emphasize urban ops

By James Tamez

19th PAD

The 383rd Training Support Regiment prepares Soldiers for situations they may face while deployed. The trainers deem preparation of mobilized National Guard and Reserve Soldiers for military operations in urbanized terrain a vital part of that training.

"The purpose of urban operations training is to try to heighten the situational awareness of Soldiers in the client units," said Maj. Yolanda Lester of 3rd Battalion (Training Support), 383rd Regiment. She is the officer in charge of urban operations training.

"In some cases, Soldiers have never had the opportunity to come into a village, do a proper search and successfully look for insurgents," she said.

Though this training may be similar to some video games available, Lester believes the site training at Fort Riley is far more realistic because it adds the human factor.

"What we stress the most is to heighten their situational awareness with the most realistic training as possible," Lester said.

"Nothing makes the training more realistic than having civilians out in the battlefield."

The level of realism is extremely important because we want to make sure that the Soldiers are prepared if they ever have to participate in urbanized operations, Lester added.

Master Sgt. Brad Cartney, observer/controller and trainer with 2nd Battalion (Training Support), 383rd Regiment, said the MOUT training is also very useful for commanders who are interested knowing the performance capabilities of their units.

"This (training) mission is vital because

See More MOUT, Page 2



Sgt. Ed Davis (left), Sgt. Travis Klanecky (center) and Pfc. Andrew Gorey of 295th Ordnance Company, an Army Reserve unit out of Nebraska, undergo MOUT training under the supervision of 383rd Training Support Regiment.

Five helicopter Soldiers receive Purple Hearts

Explosive device hits Anaconda living area

By Aaron J. Orr

82nd Medical Company

Five Soldiers of the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) received Purple Hearts for wounds resulting from an explosive attack at 8 p.m. May 28, at Logistical Support Area Anaconda in central Iraq, about 40 miles north of Baghdad.

Staff Sgt. Dora White, Spc. Greg Lee and Pfc. Michael Bender, all UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter repairers; Spc. Ira Oliver, an avionics mechanic; and Chief Warrant Officer James Martin, a Black Hawk pilot, received the medals in a ceremony Oct. 18 at

LSA Anaconda.

Lt. Col. Peter Quinn, 429th Evacuation Battalion commander, presented the medals.

The Soldiers were going about their routine that night, watching movies, working out and doing light construction work to make their tents a little more like home when, with no warning, an enemy explosive device slammed into the ground between the tents, throwing shrapnel in all directions.

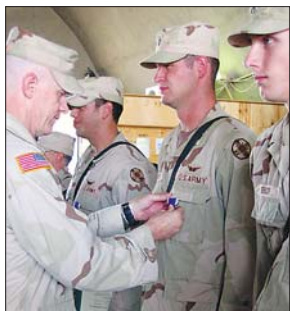
White, a career Soldier and single mother of one teenage son, had momentarily stepped from her tent to throw something in the trashcan just outside. She

received the most serious wounds. Two 8-foot-tall concrete barriers stood in front of each tent. These barriers very likely saved White's life, one Soldier guessed, but the two-foot gap between them allowed the shrapnel to get through that tore into her flesh.

Immediately after being hit, "I grabbed my chest, for whatever reason, and looked down and saw blood all over my hands," White recalled. "I was afraid to look at my chest. I wanted a medic to look at it. I was afraid I had a big hole in there."

White yelled for a medic and began running in what she

See Hearts, Page 3



Lt. Col. Peter Quinn, 429th Evacuation Battalion commander, pins a Purple Heart on Spc. Ira Oliver. He had just pinned the medal on Spc. Greg Lee (left) and would pin another on Pfc. Michael Bender (right). 82nd Med. Co./Orr





Post news in brief

Road work reroutes traffic

All Cities Enterprises is putting in two new tank crossings through Nov. 14. One will be located on Vinton School Road, .72 mile east of 1st Division Road. The second will be on Mallon Road, 1/2 mile north of Vinton School Road. Traffic at both locations is being re-routed onto the tank trail. Detour signs and lighted barricades mark the construction areas.

For more information, call Chris Jeffrey at 239-5351.

Vets Day alters trash pick-up

Trash pick-up will be altered in observance of Veteran's Day. The schedule is:

Nov. 10 – Warner Heights, Burnside Heights, dumpsters at Buildings 28, 45, 470, 540, 542 and 621.

Nov. 11 – No pick-up.
Nov. 12 – Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights, Peterson Heights (south of Thomas Avenue), dumpster at Building 5309.

For more information, call Paul Cassella at 239-6274.

Shots require appointments

In an effort to shorten waiting times and better serve the medical beneficiary population, beginning Nov. 15, the Immunization Clinic at Irwin Army Community Hospital will serve patients by appointment only. No walk-ins will be served.

Patients should call 239-3627 to schedule appointments.

ID Card Center closed to public

Fort Riley's ID Card Center will be closed to the public Nov. 17 to handle units being mobilized.

For more information, call Gary K. Morris at 239-5667 or 239-9202.

Residents, units offered boughs

Units, housing occupants and post activities desiring cedar and pine boughs to decorate the interior and exterior of their buildings can pick up this material Nov. 12 through Dec. 24 at the Public Works parking lot on Dickman Avenue across from

Building 364 on Main Post on a first come, first served basis.

Extreme care should be taken in using the boughs in order to avoid fire hazards. Frequent misting or sprinkling of boughs with water is recommended to retard their drying out. Cutting pine and cedar trees or branches anywhere on the installation is prohibited.

For more information, call the Operations and Maintenance Division at 239-3908.

Graduation ceremony set

Fort Riley military members, family members and civilian employees who are graduates of local college or SOCAD college programs are being invited to participate in the postwide graduation ceremony at 1 p.m., Dec. 9 in King Field House. For more information, call 239-6481.

PW schedules leaf pick-up

Leaf pick-up with the Public Works leaf vacuum machine began in areas of heavy tree concentration on Nov. 1. When weather permits, the leaf pick-up schedule (with emphasis on housing areas) will be:

Main Post on Mondays and Tuesdays
Marshall Army Air Field on Wednesdays
Camp Forsyth on Thursdays
Custer Hill and other areas on Fridays

Leaves to be removed by the leaf vacuum should be raked and piled in rows on the lawn area adjacent to the curb, but not on the curb or street. Leaf piles must not contain grass clippings, limbs or other heavy debris that would interfere with the vacuum operation. The leaf vacuum will operate through November as long as necessary to complete fall leaf removal.

Housing occupants desiring to confine leaves in trash bags may place these bags adjacent to the trash carts for pick-up by the trash collection contractor on regular pick-up days. Bagged leaves should not weigh any more than 40 pounds each.

The trash collection contractor will not pick up leaves for activities serviced by dumpsters. These units will be required to haul their leaves to the yard waste compost area near Building 1945 in Camp Funston. Leaves may be hauled loose or in bags, but all leaves must be deposited loose into the compost. For more information, call 239-3908.

More MOUT

continued from page 1

it acts as a good tactical barometer," Carthey said.

"It lets the units know exactly where they are with shoot, move and communicate with building to building movements, close-quarter combat and clearing rooms and buildings," he said.

Carthey added that the training is vital because it is difficult for National Guard and Reserve units to have a wide variety of training on drill weekends. As a result, the training is intensive.

"Today we have a platoon size element in the village," Carthey said.

"Normally an infantry company will come into a similar situation and send a platoon to clear a single building. We have our client units come in with one platoon to clear out the entire village with eight buildings," he explained.

Carthey said that one of the scenarios used in MOUT training has armed combatants and non-combatants walking around the village while Soldiers are taking fire from snipers within one of the buildings.

Also, one of the villagers plays a suicide bomber who is very interested in killing Soldiers.

"We are here to push their buttons and to stress them out," Lester said. "We are here to coach, teach and mentor them through this mission so that they don't find themselves in a bad situation where they don't know what to do."



19th PAD/Tamez

A Soldier with the 295th Ordnance Company, an Army Reserve unit based in Nebraska, checks a (simulated) civilian villager during urban operations training. The mobilized unit went through the training under the supervision of the 383rd Regiment (Training Support) at Fort Riley recently.

Perfect

continued from page 1

up to that; Table 8 is the final qualification on whether you're a qualified crew or an unqualified crew," Darroch said.

The scoring for Table 8 is based on a 1,000-point scale. Five daytime and five nighttime targets are worth 100 points each. The minimum overall acceptable score is 700; 900 and above is considered distinguished, Darroch said.

"We expected to shoot 900 or above, but we weren't expecting 1,000," Darroch said. "It was awesome. I've been doing this 17 years, this is the first time I shot a grand (a perfect score)."

Scores are based on quickness and accuracy of response, as well as the use of proper fire and

maneuver command and execution of those commands.

"We knew we were doing good, but we didn't know how good," Griffith said.

"After the day run when we had a 500, we were kind of nervous about the night run," Braden said.

Various mechanical problems jangled the crew's nerves during the second run, Braden said.

"The tank started having

mechanical problems, so we had to fight through that," Braden said.

The crew shot two engagements before mechanical issues forced them off the range. After mechanics worked on the tank, the crew shot a third engagement before returning for more mechanical assistance.

"They were waiting for us as soon as we came up off the range. They really helped us out," Griffith said.

CID reward increases to \$75,000

Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va.—The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$75,000 reward to anyone with information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of Pfc. Amanda Gonzales in Hanau, Germany.

The body of Gonzales, 19, was found Nov. 5, 2001, on the floor of her third-floor barracks room on Fliegerhorst Kaserne after she did not report for work.

The manner of death was ruled a homicide by asphyxiation.

The reward was recently increased from \$50,000.

Gonzales was a cook assigned to Headquarters Supply Company of the 127th Aviation Support Battalion at the time of her death.

Anyone with any information regarding this case should contact the closest CID Office or contact the Wiesbaden CID Office at 49-611-816-2481, 49-611-816-2485 or DSN 336-2481/2487/9725.

Email information to crime.tips@belvoir.army.mil.

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3 x 10.5"

BLR/October 2004

PRAIRIE HAWK CYCLE &
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Black Only
W 11-9, 11-10 & 11-12

KANSAS PRESS
2 x 2"
Black Only
Omaha Boys/11-9, 11-10 & 11-12

SET
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
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Hearts

continued from page 1

thought was the direction she should go to find one. Everyone else was moving quickly toward the nearest concrete shelter. "I was a little disoriented," she admitted. "I wasn't going toward the hangar."

Her injuries were significant. "I didn't know how many wounds I had at the time, but I could feel that I was hurt several places. I just didn't know where, and the one in the chest, even though it ended up being the smallest one, it hurt the most and it scared me the most 'cause it seemed like it bled an awful lot pretty quick," she said.

White was hurriedly helped to the hangar where company medics began to care for her. Her care continued at the 31st Combat Support Hospital at LSA Anaconda until nearly midnight.

When informed she would be able to return to the United States as a result of her injuries, White refused to entertain that idea. Adamant about staying, White convinced the officer with whom she spoke to allow her to remain in theater and to go back to her tent that night.

Lee, a 26-year-old father of two from Kingsport, Tenn., had returned to his tent only moments before the impact.

"I just got back from the gym and stepped in the tent ... I had my Creatine mixed up; I was drinking it and, boom! It knocked the bottle out of my hand," he recalled. "I didn't realize I was hit at first. Then I kind of looked at my arm and seen there was a hole in it."

Lee called out that he had been hit. "I kind of got confused after that," he said. "I couldn't feel the pain so I didn't know if I was hit anywhere else at the time."

In his confused state, Lee ran out of his tent, then immediately ran back in to get his Kevlar helmet, but changed his mind. "I said, 'I've already been hit' and took off running back out of the tent."

Lee was taken to the CSH, where he spent two days before being evacuated to Germany and then back to Fort Riley. After two months in the United States, he returned to Iraq. He still has an inch-and-a-half piece of shrapnel and a small patch of canvas, torn from the tent as the metal came through, embedded in his radius (one of the two bones in his forearm).

Oliver, 24, of Booneville, Ky., and Bender, of Bolivar, Mo., a 19-year-old father of one infant son, were sitting on the edge of Bender's bunk, watching a movie together, when each was struck in the back by a small piece of shrapnel. The

metal that hit Bender missed his spine by about an inch.

Both soldiers downplay their injuries, saying they don't really feel deserving of the Purple Heart because their injuries were slight.

"I've had bigger fishhooks in me," Bender said.

Despite his injury not being serious, Oliver said he'd rather not receive the Purple Heart because "it means they got close."

Martin, 34, of Boise, Idaho, a father of two teenage children and a 16-year Army veteran, received the Purple Heart for being hit in the back of the head with an unknown object said to have been kicked up by the explosion.

He had been working on making improvements to his tent with some of his tent mates. They were standing on the porch, Martin between the two large concrete barriers, when the rocket impacted.

"I didn't hear anything. The only thing I remember is hearing the explosion and then laying on the floor," he said.

"Some thing hit me in the back of the head and after that it's all a blur till about four or five hours later. Don't really remember exactly being hit or hitting the ground. Just, something hit me."

While there was no blood, no wounds and a no damage shown by a CAT scan of his head, Martin explained that he had a splitting headache that lasted about three days.

Martin relives the event in his head almost daily. "Anytime I hear loud ... noises, I tend to be jumpy. I am definitely more jumpy now," he said. "I don't like that, but it comes along with it. I don't even remember a lot of it. I do know that explosion and the sound of it, the sound of that impact will never get out of my head."

Quinn said pinning the medals on the Soldiers' truly was an honor," he said. "My Dad earned two of them, and I guess I've always held the Purple Heart in high reverence. It's an award a Soldier doesn't earn through merit but through a situation. Probably not a good situation, obviously, but ... it was an honor to be able to come down here and hand those out."

The commander of the 82nd Med. Co. (AA), Maj. Cara Alexander, said, "I guess I'm overwhelmingly happy, and I say that mainly because ... they're all still with us. I'm grateful for that. ... I'm very proud to see them wear it with pride. I know that everybody was behind them during the time that they were needed most."



Staff Sgt.
Dora White



Chief Warrant
Officer Martin

Riders

continued from page 1

other vehicles to keep vegetation from growing on them, he emphasized.

Fort Riley Regulation 210-15 deals with hunting and fishing on post. It also restricts use of ORVs to marked and well-traveled trails. It prohibits riders from driving ORVs on any open range or open ground on post; vehicles must keep to the trails, Barnes said.

Originally, the regulation's intention was to keep ORVs restricted to "hard stand tank trails," according to Paul Inman, chief of the post's safety division.

ORVs that can be ridden on Fort Riley must be registered and licensed for use on public roads and streets off-post, Barnes repeated. That includes buying insurance for the vehicle just as a person needs to buy insurance for a registered car or motorcycle, he said.

"If someone wants to go to the trouble of properly equipping, registering, licensing and insuring an ORV off-post and then registering it on-post," he can ride the ORV (most likely a dirt bike) on post streets and trails, but nowhere else, Barnes said.

Barnes' recommendation to ORV enthusiasts is to save their money and ride those vehicles in off-post areas where it is legal to ride them.

Local areas where ORVs can be ridden legally include:

School Creek ORV Area

The School Creek ORV Area is about 287 acres of mostly wooded terrain. Located adjacent to Milford Lake, it offers places to set up camp.

The area is restricted to vehicles 50 inches wide or less. Full-size four-wheel drive vehicles and dune buggies are not allowed on the trails.

Kansas state safety regulations are in effect for the area. Riders must wear mandatory eyewear and juveniles must wear helmets.

Mountain biking is also popular in the area. According to the Corps of Engineers' web site, mountain biking and ORVs have coexisted for several years along the trail system without incident.

A primitive parking area is available and free.

Trails can be accessed from both sides of the parking lot. A vault toilet, refuse dumpster and loading ramp are located in the parking lot.

The park has limited maintenance, so users of the area are expected to pick up after themselves and follow the rules.

Directions: From Junction City,

go 2 miles northwest on Kansas Highway 57. Then go 4 miles west on Kansas Highway 244, 8 miles north on County Road 837 and turn east onto Luftman Road until you reach the area.

Tuttle Creek ORV Area

The Tuttle Creek ORV Area is 310 acres of trails, steep climbs, sharp turns and rugged terrain. It is open to all motorized and non-motorized vehicles.

A map posted on the bulletin board near the park entrance notes boundaries.

Riders must stay off private property. Boundaries are indicated by barbed wire fences and rock walls.

The Corps of Engineers asks that riders use only existing trails and not create new trails.

Park prohibitions include: riding in creek beds, camping, overnight use, open fires, hunting and firearms.

Fancy Creek State Park, 4 miles north, is the nearest camping area.

The public lands outside the parks are open to hunting.

The park is open from sunrise to sunset.

The area is located 2 miles southeast of Randolph with access off Riley County Road 893 to

Secret Road, then one-half mile east.

Spillway Cycle Area

The Spillway Cycle Area is 90 acres of open and wooded terrain adjacent to the spillway. Trails range from level stretches to challenging hill climbs.

The area is open to bicycles and all two-, three- and four-wheeled motorized vehicles with a wheelbase of less than 66 inches.

The wheelbase limit is strictly enforced. To assist riders in determining their wheelbase, pavement markings set 66 inches apart have been placed near the vault toilets.

Dune buggies and four-wheel drive vehicles are not allowed at the park. All cars and trucks are restricted to the paved parking area.

A cycle area map posted in the parking lot identifies the boundaries where authorized vehicles may be operated. Signs are also set up on the park's boundaries.

Vault toilets, picnic tables and a loading ramp are adjacent to the paved entrance parking lot.

The park is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. year-round.

The area joins the spillway just below the east entrance of Tuttle Creek Dam, with access off Dyer Road.

STATE FARM INSURANCE 2 x 2" Black Only 2X2 CNR INS 0354424 10/22 SR
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CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC 2 x 2" Black Only 2X2CANDLEWOOD03544785

KANSAS PRESS 2 x 2" Black Only Schneider/11-9, 11-10 & 11-12

KANSAS PRESS 2 x 2" Black Only Purple Auc/11-9, 11-10 & 11-12
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THE MARTIN AGENCY 4 x 10" Black Only Altnel/Post 11-5, 12, 19 & 24

TYME OUT LOUNGE 2 x 2" Black Only 2X2 TYME OUT PARTY RM 03545141

KANSAS PRESS 2 x 2" Black Only CPI/11-9, 11-10 & 11-12





Post news in brief

Library offers 2004 reading

The U.S. Army chief of staff's 2004 professional reading list materials are available to Soldiers at the Fort Riley Post Library.

Each year the chief of staff compiles a list of recommended reading materials for Soldiers ranging in rank from privates to senior officers. The readings are chosen to develop military professionals through knowledge of military history and strategy, as well as development of personal leadership skills.

This year's recommended titles include: "Inside al Qaeda: Global Network of Terror," "Transformation Under Fire: Revolutionizing How America Fights," "The General's War: the Inside Story of the Conflict in the Gulf," "The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization," and "Makers of Modern Strategy."

New recommendations will become available as they are received.

The military collection at the library includes books about military strategy, global and American history and biographies of military and political leaders.

The Post Library is located on Custer Hill in Building 5306. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call 239-5305.

Holiday changes trash pick-up

The refuse schedule will change Nov. 22-26 in observance of Thanksgiving Day. The schedule is:

Nov. 22 - Colyer Manor, Main Post, Marshall Field, dumpster at Building 621. (No change from regular schedule.)

Nov. 23 - Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights, Monteth Heights, Peterson Heights (north of Thomas Avenue), dumpster at Building 5309. (No change from regular schedule.)

Nov. 24 - Warner Heights, Burnside Heights, dumpsters at Buildings 28, 45, 470, 540, 542, 621.

Nov. 25 - No pick up.

Nov. 26 - Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights, Peterson Heights (south of Thomas Avenue), dumpster at Building 5309.

For more information, call Paul Cassella at 239-6274.

Mail classes scheduled

An Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations class will be offered Nov. 17, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Building 319. Pre-enrollment is required.

Each commander who operates a unit mailroom must have at least one primary and one alternate unit postal officer in grade E-6 or above. Each mailroom must also have at least one primary and one alternate unit mail clerk.

Prospective unit mail clerks must have at least an Interim secret clearance and have completed 20 days on-the-job training before attending class.

To enroll or for more information, call 239-5411.

COTTONWOOD THEATERS
1 x 3"
Black Only
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Devil Brigade salutes Soldiers

1st BCT presents Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star Medals, Purple Hearts

By J.D. Hardesty
Staff writer

Awards

Soldier's Medal

Staff Sgt. Jason Miller, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Bronze Star Medal

with V-Device

1st Lt. Parsana Deoki, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Sgt. 1st Class Shane Belanger, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Staff Sgt. Leroy Willis, 1st Eng. Bn.

Purple Heart

Spec. Douglas Lallicker, HHC, 1st Eng. Bn.

Pfc. Jeremy Campbell, Co. B, 1st Eng. Bn.

Army Commendation Medal

with V-Device

Spec. Michael Pooler, Co. A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.

Spec. Everton Edwards, Co. B, 101st FSB

Spec. Matthew Ring, Co. C, 101st FSB

Seven 1st Brigade Combat Team Soldiers received recognition for valor on the battlefield at an awards ceremony Nov. 4, at Cavalry Parade Field on Fort Riley.

The highest award presented for heroism at personal risk of life in a noncombat situation was also bestowed on a Devil Brigade Soldier. The Soldier's Medal was presented to Staff Sgt. Jason Miller, 29, a San Antonio native assigned to 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry.

Miller and his scout platoon were providing security for a supply convoy in July when he came upon two National Guard five-ton trucks that had crashed, flipped over and caught fire.

Miller, putting his life in danger, said he pulled four Soldiers away and carried the ammunition they were hauling away from the burning vehicles. He then provided first aid to prepare the four Soldiers for medical evacuation to a hospital.

See Awards, Page 8



Post/Hardesty

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, Rep.-Kan., leads well-wishers to congratulate Soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team following an awards ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field Nov. 4. The Soldiers received the Soldier's Medal, Bronze Stars and Army Commendation Medals for valorous service and Purple Hearts for wounds received in combat in Iraq.

Civilian personnel system begins test in 2005

Officials expect changes to speed hiring times, manage people better

By John A. Emmert
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army's civilian workforce will soon experience shorter hiring times, personnel actions based on performance and increased flexibility for conversions and lateral movements, according to the program executive officer of the National Security Personnel System.

Marty E. Lacey spoke about the plans and implications of the NSPS at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting Oct. 27.

Another senior defense official told the audience that 5,000 military billets will convert to civilian positions.

Initial implementation (Spiral One) of NSPS is scheduled for July 2005.

The Spiral One process will test NSPS at select agencies before implementation throughout the Department of Defense.

Nominations and recommendations for organizations to be included in the Spiral One process are under way, according to the NSPS Web site. Announcements of organizations selected for the first spiral are anticipated by year's end.

The current system needs to change to manage Department of Defense civilians effectively, Lacey said.

Issues with the system include slow hiring practices, inadequate accountability, limited reassignment flexibility and set pay regardless of performance.

NSPS was established to make the civilian personnel management system more flexible and to make the Department of Defense a more competitive employer. NSPS will change how civilians are hired, compensated, promoted and disciplined, Lacey said.

The NSPS will include changes in staffing:

- The hiring time for emergency and hard-to-fill jobs will be

shortened.

- Reduction in Forces will be based upon performance and not longevity.

- There will be increased flexibility for conversions and for lateral transfers.

The pay system will also change, Lacey said, adding that there will be significantly less than the 150 pay grades currently in the system.

Pay banding will combine similar occupations and positions into groups to simplify job classifications and broaden pay ranges. There will be no fixed step rates and pay will be throughout a

range and based on performance, not time-in-grade.

The following will remain the same under NSPS:

- Merit systems principles
- Veterans' preference principles
- Rules on employee training

- Safety and drug abuse programs

- Health insurance and retirement benefits

- Leave and attendance rules
- Anti-discrimination laws

- Travel and subsistence rules
- Rules against prohibited personnel practices

Lacey said the following principles are guiding the work: put the mission first, respect the individual and protect rights guaranteed by law; value talent and commitment to public service; be flexible, understandable and responsive; ensure accountability; balance Human Resources interoperability with unique mission requirements; and be competitive and cost effective.

David S. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, announced at the AUSA annual meeting that the Army is civilianizing about 5,000 garrison and headquarters staff military billets.

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Commentary

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

Fort Riley Post

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Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

If you could tell U.S. news media in Iraq what stories to cover, what stories would you assign them to write about or film for television?



"I'd like to see what has been restored in Iraq, the electricity, water, health care facilities. I'd like to see more about what's being done to keep the oil supply going."

Marica Amos
Spouse of retired Air Force serviceman visiting Fort Riley to pick up medicine and shop at commissary
Home: Topeka



"I'd want them to show how we are actually helping. All we hear is how many are killed. They need to show how we are actually helping the communities. Doing that would change people's hearts."

Sgt. Marcelo Calderon
Tanker
Headquarters Company,
1st Battalion, 34th Armor
Home: Gardena, Calif.



"That's a hard question. I guess I would like to see the good stuff."

Pfc. Tracie Jones
Truck driver
778th Transportation Company
Home: The Midwest
"I'm a college student and have traveled around a lot."



"All the good things U.S. Soldiers are doing. Because the media rode with the units (during fighting) they saw the worst part of the war and not the good things after. Someone who has been to Iraq told me about a lot of good things being done."

Martha 'Alice' Soper
Spouse of retired Air Force pilot
Home: Topeka



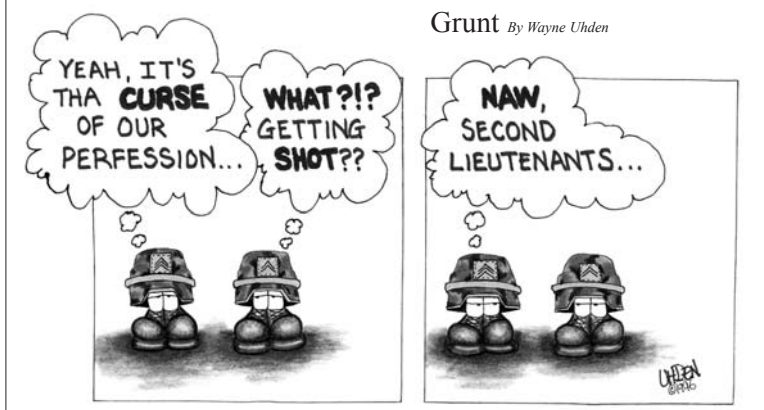
"I'd like to see the two things (the war and good stories) together. We did lots of good things, like dropping off medical supplies, opening schools and clinics. We turned over one of our bases to the Iraqi National Guard."

Spec. Nathan Sparks
Tanker
1st Battalion, 34th Armor
Home: Bonner Springs, Kan.

Next week's question:

What is your definition of a patriot?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.



Mental health

Class provides brief overview of issues

By Sonya Brown
Directorate, MWR

The workshop "Suicide Talk - Your Role in Creating a Life-Assisting Community" was conducted recently at the Soldier and Family Support Center for Family Readiness Group Advisors, Leaders and Point of Contact volunteers.

The class was taught by Billy May, Family Advocacy Program prevention educator and one of the Fort Riley certified trainers of the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training program.

The primary purpose of the class was to provide a brief overview of the issues and concerns of suicide in the military community. Suicide has been and still is a very complicated and misunderstood problem. Unfortunately, it is also a reality in the

military community whereby servicemembers and family members have seemingly seen no way to resolve their personal conflicts other than to take their lives.

This class was coordinated by the ACS Mobilization and Deployment program for FRG key persons because they are often the gate-keepers or initial contacts for family members experiencing difficulties which may lead to suicidal behavior.

The class is not intended to provide the skills required to provide counseling, but rather to supply the basic awareness training and prevention education needed by family members who can play a role in reducing suicide in their communities.

After attending the "Suicide Talk" class, participants are encouraged to register for the ASIST training. This is a formal course of instruction requiring a

firm commitment of two days. The 16-hour training provides specific intervention skills in recognizing and assisting a person who is suicidal. In fact, the course has already proven to be beneficial in the prevention of at least one possible suicide in the Fort Riley Community.

Shortly after completing the course, an FRG leader was called upon to apply the very skills she had received in her ASIST class when she received a call from a member in her Family Readiness Group who was contemplating suicide. Using the skills she acquired in the training, she was able to assist the family member and get her to the professionals who could help her.

More importantly, because she had attended ASIST she not only felt confident enough to intervene but also comfortable enough to get involved. Being

uncomfortable about the subject of suicide or uninformed about how we can prevent or assist someone contemplating suicide often leads us to not get involved and possibly miss the opportunity to save someone's life.

All of the family members attending the session were surprised to learn that suicide is one of the most underestimated community health problems in the world.

They also commented that after attending the class they felt more aware and better prepared to help make Fort Riley a life-assisting community.

For more information about suicide awareness or the ASIST class, contact the Soldier Risk Reduction Program at the Soldier and Family Support Center by calling 239-9435.

American Education Week

American Education Week, Nov. 14-20

By Kay Gatzka
Post Education Center

Amy educators will join educators from across the country to celebrate American Education Week Nov. 14-20. During the week's observance, the Army refocuses on strengthening their resolve to educate America's Soldier students to meet the challenges of leadership today and tomorrow.

This year's theme, "American Soldiers - Guardians of the American Dream," underscores the philosophy that started American Education Week.

Representatives of the National Education Association and the American Legion met for the first time in 1919 to discuss the distressing fact that 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate and 9 percent were physically unfit.

As a result of this meeting to seek ways to generate public sup-



Kay Gatzka

port for education, the Army's Soldiers became the knowledge- and capabilities-based force they are today.

The Army Continuing Education System offers a variety of programs to assist Soldiers in obtaining their college degree or develop their skills.

These programs take into consideration Soldiers' busy careers and their personal time, whether leisure or with family.

No longer tied to the traditional classroom type of education, Soldiers can earn their degree through a variety of distance learning programs sponsored by their local Army Education Cen-

ter. Education Services Officer Federico J. Rodriguez, Ph.D., points out:

"The Fort Riley Army Education Center offers traditional college courses during morning, afternoon and lunch hour timeframes through the Leadership Skills Enhancement Courses and weekend courses through the on-post colleges and universities."

"Soldiers who are unable to attend traditional classes can see

their Army education counselor to locate distance learning courses that are reasonably priced, meet their degree goals and fit their busy schedules," he said.

The Army Education Center, in keeping with the American Education Week theme, provides an educational opportunity for every Soldier.

Many of those opportunities are open to family members, retirees and Department of Army civilians.

FORT RILEY POST

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What are your concerns or suggestions for improvement?

Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas):





AUSA taps American Soldier for award

By Lorie Jewell

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In recognition of the selfless and loyal service of those in uniform, the Association of the United States Army chose "The American Soldier" as its 2004 George Catlett Marshall Medal recipient.

"These noble and selfless patriots who serve causes larger than themselves are known as American Soldiers," said retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, AUSA president, in presenting the award at the organization's annual George Catlett Marshall Memorial Dinner Oct. 27. "They consistently embody all that is good about

America."

Marshall served as the Army's chief of staff during World War II, from 1939 to 1945, and following his retirement, as secretary of state from 1947 to 1949. He created the Marshall Plan, which provided economic and military aid to foreign nations. Marshall received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston accepted the award with a robust "Hooah!" generating a resounding round of hooahs in return.

"What a great night to be a Soldier," Preston said, thanking the association for the honor on behalf of Soldiers everywhere. "We are very humbled by this

tribute to the American Soldier."

Preston noted that throughout the Army's 229-year history, every Soldier has had a story as unique as the various cities and towns they came from. He shared a few stories that best exemplify the Soldier's Creed.

In the War of Independence, for example, Preston recalled Deborah Sampson of Plimpton, Mass., who disguised herself as a young man in order to join the fight.

Her masquerade lasted for three years and through two injuries. When her true gender was discovered, she was discharged.

Gen. George Washington lobbied on her behalf to ensure she received the same pension and

benefits afforded other veterans.

Once asked if she fought to advance the cause of women's rights, Preston quoted Sampson's reply:

"I was heeding the call of freedom; that call goes to both man and woman."

Preston also described the heroic efforts of 1st Sgt. Powhatan Beaty of Company G, 5th U.S. Colored Regiment, in leading what was left of his unit during a bloody Civil War battle at Fort Harrison, Va. Beaty was awarded the Medal of Honor.

There was also Sgt. Alvin York, who in World War I picked off a slew of enemy snipers with his carbine, charged an enemy stronghold and single-handedly cap-

tured 132 prisoners.

World War II also created the legend of Pfc. Martin of the 325th Glider Regiment, 82nd Airborne. During the Battle of the Bulge, the story goes, a tank destroyer came upon a solitary Martin digging a foxhole.

Martin reportedly greeted the tank sergeant, asking if they were looking for a safe place. Affirmative, the sergeant replied.

"Well, buddy, just pull your tank in behind me," the private replied. "I'm the 82nd Airborne and this is as far as they go."

Master Sgt. Anthony Pryor, a Special Forces Soldier fighting with his unit in Afghanistan, earned the Silver Star for his actions during a raid of an enemy

stronghold. Credited with killing four enemy fighters, including one in hand-to-hand combat, Pryor was left bloodied and broken. Still, he just wanted to make sure his Soldiers were OK.

In Iraq, Pfc. Jessica Nicholson of the 1st Armored Division proved herself a warrior and team member when she apprehended a man twice her size at a checkpoint she was guarding. The man was loaded with grenades.

Throughout the ages, the conflicts and wars they've born, Soldiers have consistently met the challenge of defending our country, Preston said. "Some names may be lost to history, but their contributions will never be forgotten," he said.

Florida post office named after Medal of Honor winner

By Lorie Jewell

Army News Service

HOLIDAY, Fla. — In life, Sgt. 1st Class Paul Ray Smith wasn't always popular with his Soldiers.

A disciplined and demanding leader, he sometimes worked his Soldiers into evening hours and on weekends to get the job done; to get it done right. His "boys," as he referred to them, didn't always understand or appreciate his ways.

Things became clear when the boys of Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Infantry Divi-

sion, went to war in Iraq; particularly so when they arrived at Baghdad's airport — then known as Saddam International — on April 4, 2004.

Outnumbered, the combat engineers fought a fierce battle with Iraqi soldiers. Smith was shot after taking over a .50-caliber machine gun whose crew had been injured; the fire cover he provided allowed Soldiers to get close enough to the enemy to end the fight.

Nominated for the Medal of Honor, Smith is credited with saving not just the lives of the Soldiers engaged in the fight, but

dozens more outside the courtyard where the battle played out. He was 33.

In death, Smith has his Soldiers' unflinching respect, admiration and gratitude. They traveled several hundred miles from Fort Stewart, Ga. — twice in one month — to Holiday, Fla., to witness a post office dedicated as the "Sgt. First Class Paul Ray Smith Post Office Building."

Hurricane Jeanne forced the original Sept. 26 ceremony to be rescheduled to Oct. 29. Smith's family lives nearby.

One of his boys, Sgt. Matthew Keller, shared his thoughts and

memories of Smith at the ceremony.

"He was difficult to work for at times," Keller said. "For him, it was all about doing it the right way and preparing for war. He was hard on us at times, but only because he wanted us to succeed on the battlefield."

But Smith wasn't always hard-boiled with his Soldiers. When a few decided to get baptized overseas, Keller included, Smith showed up to support them. He even took pictures. And he helped the guys save money on haircuts by performing the service for them, Keller said.

"Over there, a haircut was basically a shaved head," he said, drawing laughs from the crowd — including Smith's wife, Birgit; children Jessica, 18, and David, 10; sister, Christina; and his mother and stepfather, Janice and Donald Pvirre. "He always complimented us on how we looked when he was done."

Jack Harris, a local media personality, read letters from President George W. Bush and his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. Both commended Smith's sacrifice and service, as well as the post office tribute.

"In naming this post office for

Sgt. 1st Class Smith, you honor a proud patriot who answered the call to defend our nation," President Bush wrote.

The Suncoast District of the U.S. Postal System stretches along Florida's west coast, and includes about 200 post offices staffed by some 11,000 employees. The Holiday branch is the first to be named for an individual, he added.

A photo of a smiling Smith in combat gear and a plaque will be displayed inside with an enlarged storyboard of a five-part series about Smith published by the St. Petersburg Times earlier this year.

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Mortar crews aim for gunnery honors



A crew of the 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, mortar platoon, fires a round Oct. 27 during competition to determine the top gunners in the platoon.

By April Blackmon
Staff writer

Several Soldiers tested their mortar firing skills during an exercise Oct. 26-27. Their mission was part of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor's, gunnery training. The mortar exercise was live-fire, squad-level training emphasizing tactical readiness, speed and accuracy of fire, and safety. Four squads of Soldiers practiced different real-world scenarios.

The squads fired 238 mortar rounds from their M1064 Mortar Carriers (modified M113 Armored Personnel Carriers).

By turning the training into a competition for top mortar squad honors, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Johnson, mortar platoon sergeant, said he hopes to better prepare his squad leaders and Soldiers for any

deployments.

"The battle in Iraq is all sergeant and staff sergeant ran, so I'm trying to get them up a level so they're used to making decisions and making the call. Now they have to go from 'I'm just following' mode to 'I'm in charge.'"

"That's the reason I'm doing this squad-level competition," he said. "By having them compete, it breeds greatness. Nobody wants to be told they're last or they're not the top squad."

The direct and indirect mortar fire training makes the Soldiers more competent as a gun squad and a mortar platoon, Johnson said.

It also makes the training more competitive, said 1st Lt. Joel Felts, mortar platoon leader.

"Like anything else, you want to have competitiveness among squads, and it just builds people to

be better. So, if there's a little camaraderie among the group, it builds a little more esprit de corps, so people are motivated to come out and do their job," he said.

By the second day of competition, Johnson said he could see his Soldiers' confidence levels building.

"There were some squad leaders who've never done this before, but they've been motivated and energetic," he said.

Mortar platoons provide timely and accurate fires for the battalion, including smoke screens and nighttime illumination, Felts said.

"So, if somebody needs support or immediate suppression that's forward of us, we fire ahead and bring them out of contact, provide smoke or whatever they need," Felts said.

Results of the competition were not available at press time.

Want to check on past stories
about your unit or activity at Fort Riley?
Go to the Post online archive files at www.riley.army.mil.

Awards continued from page 4

Then, Miller said, he returned to the burning vehicles and tried to extinguish the truck fires.

First Lt. Parsana Deokii, Sgt. 1st Class Shane Belanger and Spc. Robert Saltee, all from the 1st Bn., 16th Inf., and Leroy Willis of the 1st Engineer Battalion received Bronze Star Medals for valor. Three other Soldiers received Army Commendation Medals for valor.

Nineteen other 1st BCT Soldiers received awards for meritorious service in Iraq.

Col. "Buck" Conner, 1st BCT commander, told the crowd gathered to honor the Soldiers, "It is nearly impossible to reward these great Soldiers for the time and sacrifices they have made in the service to their nation. They left their families and friends far behind and braved a tough enemy in some of the fiercest fighting in

the contentious Sunni Triangle.

"Day in and day out the Soldiers of the brigade did their duties faithfully with little fanfare or recognition," Conner said. "Many gave their full measure. It is appropriate, therefore, that we honor our Soldiers with awards."

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan, congratulated the Soldiers, recognizing the "amazing contri-

bution you have made to this country and to all of you who have served in Iraq and different places around the world. Thank you and God bless you for what you have done for this country and what you have done for freedom and liberty."

The brigade also honored civilian agencies and Family Readiness Group leaders.

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Fort Riley Community Life

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

Community news briefly

Riley's buffet cancelled

The Thanksgiving Day Buffet has been cancelled. The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation plans to try again with a Valentine's Day buffet.

For more information, call Beth Ernst at 239-3733.

Quarterly blood drive slated

The quarterly blood drive is scheduled for Nov. 16-17 at King Field House. Donors may give from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 16 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 17.

Thanksgiving service planned

"Celebrate and Give Thanks," the 2004 Fort Riley Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service, will be at 11:45 a.m. Nov. 24 in Kapaun Chapel, 7086 Normandy Drive.

Featured speakers will be Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, and Chap. (Lt. Col.) Don German of 24th Inf. Div. (Mech).

Featured musical artists will be Lt. Col. Nick Sengstacke and the Protestant Women of the Chapel Worship Band, Staff Sgt. Richard and Maryann Handran and Audrey Ayers. A free snack lunch will be served following the service. For more information, call 239-3359.

Web coupons stretch savings

The Defense Commissary Agency is making it easier to access grocery coupons by making Internet coupon links available under a new section at the top of the links page at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Major military coupon media as well as commercial Internet coupon Web sites and coupons by mail are now available to customers with the click of a mouse. One of the new coupon sites offers download instructions in English and Spanish; another link offers military customers living off installations the opportunity to sign up for coupons by mail.

All 273 commissaries worldwide are now accepting computer-generated Internet coupons that meet the following criteria:

- They must have a bar code that store checkouts can scan and
- They cannot be for free product.

Photocopied or facsimile-generated coupons are not accepted.

Chapel plans relief sale

Morris Hill Chapel will be hosting a Charity Relief sale on from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 13. Clothing, toys, household items and more will be on sale. All proceeds will go to support the people of Grenada in rebuilding their island after hurricanes devastated them this summer.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Junction City honors military

Veterans, family group leaders, supporter recognized for contributions

Staff report

A longtime Fort Riley supporter and 53 Family Readiness Group leaders received awards Nov. 5 during the third annual Veterans and Military Appreciation Dinner and Dance sponsored

by Junction City.

This year's event took place in the new Geary County Convention Center next to the Courtyard by Marriott motel. A city commissioner estimated that about 650 people attended the event.

Longtime Fort Riley supporter John Trygg, owner of Konza Con-

struction Company, was honored for his work in the military community and contributions to the city.

Trygg has offered warehouse space to store truckloads of items donated to the local YMCA for later dissemination to post Soldiers stationed in Iraq. He has

been a major supporter of the Armed Services YMCA and most recently orchestrated the donation and installation of the Global War on Terrorism monument on post.

The monument displays the names of each Fort Riley Soldier killed in that war on a black marble obelisk representing one of the

World Trade Center towers.

"I take great pleasure in one time surprising you, sir," said Mayor Mick Wunder as he presented the award to Trygg.

Wunder noted that Trygg has provided many voluntary services

See Honored, Page 10

Playing mascot



Post/Hardesty
Dan Mears, who is the KC Wolf mascot for the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs, dresses Ware Elementary School fifth-grader Justin Schultz in his mascot costume while talking to students during a Red Ribbon Week assembly at the school. Mears helped Schultz keep his balance while trying to walk in the large, heavy costume.

Chiefs' 'Wolf' leaves advice

By J.D. Hardesty

Staff writer

The National Football League Kansas City Chiefs' mascot, KC Wolf, talked to Ware Elementary School students on post Nov. 2 as part of Red Ribbon Week.

Red Ribbon Week is devoted to activities promoting a drug-free lifestyle among students.

Funded by the school's Parent Teacher Organization, the presentation provided laughs as well as an anti-drug message. KC Wolf told the students his Red Ribbon Week message was simply, "There are a lot of reasons why kids do drugs, but drugs will never let you succeed."

Dan Mears, 37, started his mascot career as the Missouri Tiger for the Big-12 Conference school. He then jumped into the pro ranks with Major League Baseball's St. Louis Cardinals before moving to the Chiefs, where he has been for the past 15 years.

With his size 22 shoes and 85-inch waist pants, Mears said he gets paid to "act goofy" and was the big bad wolf with his three children dressed as the three little pigs for Halloween. His message is simply the "ABCs" of his life, he said.

"Attitude is everything, so make yours positive; behavior is a choice of choosing to be good; and character is priceless," he told the children.

"If all of you (students) will make good choices, good things will happen," he told the estimated 670 students in the school's gym. "When you make bad choices, bad things will happen."

Mears makes 350 to 400 appearances annually in "coat and tail" with nearly half of those being speaking engagements in addition to his antics on the football field.

"Treat your reputation as precious," he told the youth, "and treat your character as priceless."

Kansas City Chiefs' mascot helps Geary County Unified School District 475 schools on Fort Riley promote drug awareness and avoidance during annual Red Ribbon Week activities

Area colleges sign to attend education fair

By Kay Gatz

Post Education Center

Representatives of 15 area colleges and education providers will join the Fort Riley Education Services, Army Education Center, in

an education fair this month to tell Soldiers, military family members, retirees and the general public what they offer.

The fair is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 19 Building 210 on Custer Avenue. The fair ends a weeklong observance of

American Education Week that will feature displays and informational materials at several locations around post promoting the theme of "American Soldiers - Guardians of the American Dream."

Education Center, coordinates and provides a wide range adult education opportunities from basic skills and high school completion to graduate programs.

Participants expected for the education fair are the American Institute of Baking, Baker Univer-

sity, Barton County Community College, Central Michigan University, Central Texas College, Cloud County Community College, Friends University, Geary County Learning Center, High-

See Fair, Page 10





Community news briefly

Scholarship program begins

The fifth anniversary of Scholarships for Military Children began Nov. 2. Applications for the 2005 program will be available at all 273 commissaries worldwide, or online at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

A link to the application is available at <http://www.commissaries.com>, the Web site for the Defense Commissary Agency.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of military retirees, active duty and Guard and Reserve servicemembers. Eligibility and additional information is available at the program Web site.

Applications for the \$1,500 scholarships are due at a commissary by close of business Feb. 16. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

Administered by Fisher House Foundation and funded by the manufacturers and industry, the program has awarded more than \$3 million for nearly 2,000 scholarships to the sons and daughters of military retirees, active duty and Guard and Reserve service members.

Commissary sets hours

Nov. 11 – Open normal hours
Nov. 22 – Open Monday nor-

mal hours
Nov. 25 – Closed for Thanksgiving
Dec. 20 – Open Monday normal hours
Dec. 24 – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Dec. 25 – Closed for the holiday
Dec. 26 – Open normal hours
Jan. 1 – Closed for the holiday

PX facilities set holiday hours

For customers' convenience, the AAFES facilities' operating hours on Thanksgiving Day will be:

Main Store – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Custer Hill Shoppette – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Forsyth Shoppette – open 24 hours

Crafts center slates classes

Nov. 13 and 14 – 2 to 4 p.m., black and white photography

Nov. 14 – 1 to 4:30 p.m., scrapbooking get-together

Nov. 15 – 6:15 to 8:45 p.m., beginning sewing

Nov. 16 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., wood class project (cedar chest)

Nov. 16 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., mold pouring

Nov. 17 – 1 to 3 p.m., stained glass

For more information, call the Arts and Crafts Center at 239-9205.

TV star debuts boxing movie

AAFES

DALLAS – The Army and Air Force Exchange System and Rick Schroder, former star of Silver Spoons and NYPD Blue, brought Hollywood to troops in Germany recently with the screening of Schroder's new film "Black Cloud."

"Rick's visit to Europe went far beyond premiering a film," said AAFES Vice President of Food and Theater Richard Sheff. "He went out of his way to connect with the troops in Germany."

Schroder's three-day visit was a frenzy of autograph signings and personal interaction. Some of Schroder's many autograph signings at AAFES facilities, including his Ramstein appearance, boasted crowds that wrapped around the base exchange.

Shortly after arriving in Ramstein, Schroder quickly made his way to Landstuhl Medical Center to meet and talk with injured troops.

"Rick's interaction with these troops was touching," said Jon Walters, AAFES motion picture program manager accompanying Schroder. "Their eyes lit up and smiles spread across their face as soon as Rick entered the room." Schroder premiered "Black Cloud" at the Ramstein Galaxy theater, the Wiesbaden Nightingale theater and the Hainerberg Tauntus theater. Each screening was an exclusive engagement for troops and their families.

After screening the film in Wiesbaden, Schroder even took the time to pay a visit to General H.H. Arnold High School, a Department of Defense education activity, to crown the king and queen of the Homecoming Dance.

"From the hospital to the high school, Rick was a trooper," Sheff said. "We at AAFES are extremely grateful for his support. His visit brought a bit of home that thousands of troops and their loved ones won't soon forget."

"Black Cloud" is about a spirited young boxer who backs down from no man.

When Eddie Young (Rick Schroder), a gritty rodeo circuit cowboy, tries to reclaim the beautiful Sammi Haskie (Julia Jones), with whom he has a son, Black Cloud (Eddie Spears) intervenes. A fight ensues and Black Cloud savagely beats Eddie.

Sheriff Powers (Tim McGraw) comes after Black Cloud but is blocked by Bud (Russell Means), Black Cloud's mentor and seasoned boxing coach. The sheriff and his deputies cruise the boundaries of the reservation and bide their time.

Meanwhile, Olympic boxing scout Norm Olsen (Peter Greene), who had witnessed Black Cloud destroying opponents in a Golden Gloves boxing tournament, offers the fighter an opportunity to fight his way on to the Olympic boxing team. Black Cloud defiantly declines, willing to fight only for his homeland, the Navajo Nation.



Post/Blackmon

Still time

Fort Riley's Combined Federal Campaign has been extended to Nov. 19. Time remains to contribute and help the many charities and community agencies that benefit.

Fair

continued from page 9

land Community College, Kansas State University, Kansas Wesleyan University Nursing Division, Manhattan Christian College, Manhattan Area Technical College, Manhattan Open Door, Upper Iowa University and the Army Education Center.

Anyone attending the fair can talk to representatives of each school or program and pick up literature describing what each offers, said Federico Rodriguez, education services officer.

Honored

continued from page 9

to Junction City and Fort Riley through the years.

"From the city and everybody in Junction City, we appreciate you and everything you have done," Wunder said.

Diane Hardy, wife of Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, presented 53 awards honoring Family Readiness Group leaders for their efforts.

These 53 spouses of military personnel took the lead in organizing and conducting support groups for military families during times of deployment.

After the award presentations, Phyllis Terry Davidson of Air Midwest conducted a drawing for airlines tickets donated by Air Midwest and America West.

Five pairs of tickets were won by active military personnel attending the event and the only group eligible for the drawing.

Veterans were honored before the presentation of awards as they stood for a round of applause.

Veterans were recognized separately by each war starting with World War II.

Veterans from Operation Iraqi Freedom received the strongest show of support.

Daily Union reporter Dustin Kimmel contributed to this report.

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Community news briefly

Students earn scholarships

MANHATTAN – More than 4,000 students at Kansas State University are scholarship recipients for the 2004-2005 school year. The scholarships total \$6.6 million, and most are made possible through donations and gifts to the KSU Foundation.

Among Fort Riley students receiving scholarships are:

- **Marisela Maria Gutierrez**, who received the Katharin McQuillen Scholarship (\$2,349), Ppsy. Memorial Scholarship Gifts (\$151).

- **Juan Alberto Ortiz**, who received the Allison Army ROTC Scholarship (\$2,000) and the Memorial Scholarship Fund (\$2,100).

- **Heidi Lavelle Paulson**, who received The Arts and Sciences Fund for Excellence (\$1,250).

- **Callie Marie Sexton**, who received The Conord Memorial Engineering Scholarship (\$800), The Rathbone Scholarship Fund (\$1,700) and Ross & Baruzzini Inc. Architectural Engineering & Construction Science Scholarship (\$500).

Spouses' club plans event

The Fort Riley Enlisted Spouses' Club plans to have a Crazy Hat Night from 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 18 at Rally Point on post. Tickets cost \$10 and the last day to buy tickets is Nov. 10.

For more information, call Laneya Hairston at 784-4388 or Karla Moody at 761-0042.

Spouses' clubs slate craft fair

The Fort Riley Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club and Enlisted Spouses' Club are organizing a Christmas craft fair in Hangar 817 at Marshall Army Airfield Nov. 20.

Money raised from the fair will be contributed to the Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Fund.

Fort Riley private organizations and informal fund activities will be able to sell food and beverages. Vendors are invited to sell art, crafts and collectable items. Vendors may rent booth space for \$50 for each 10-foot by 10-foot booth.

For more information about the fair and booths, call Christy Pribyla at 717-3008, Christina Humphreys at 463-5436 or Sherri Miller at 770-9219.

Teen Center slates activities

Nov. 12 – 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

Nov. 13 – 9 to 11:30 p.m., high school dance

Nov. 19 – 7 to 10 p.m., pool party at Eyster Pool

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

Child Services sets activities

Through Nov. 12 – Enrollment for youth basketball

Nov. 11 – 2:30 to 4 p.m., family child care home certification.

For more information, call 239-9173

Middle school artists win contest

Local Lions Club sponsors sixth annual peace poster competition

By Mike Heronemus

Editor



Fort Riley Middle School winners in the Sundowners Lions Club Peace Poster contest show their entries. First place went to Heather Leavitt (bottom left), second place to Jacob Hildebrand (right) and third to Mia Tetreault.

Artistic talents of three Fort Riley Middle School sixth-graders earned them top places in the sixth annual Junction City Sundowners Lions Club poster contest at the school.

Heather Leavitt, 11, won first place. She is the daughter of Capt. Gary and Allyson Leavitt.

Her poster will advance to the district contest. If it wins there, the poster will be judged at state level, said Dan Rickman, a club representative.

"We've had some district winners and one runner-up at state," Rickman said.

Jacob Hildebrand, 11, won second place. He is the son of Marie and Sgt. Timothy Youngblood.

Mia Tetreault, 12, won third place. She is the daughter of Spc. Timothy and Julianna Tetreault.

Five other students entered the contest. They were: Brittany Litter, Shawn Persaud, Zachary Sankey, Heather Tinsley and Austin Wilder. The contest was

open to children age 11 to 13.

Students drew original posters to illustrate this year's theme: "Give Peace a Chance."

Leavitt said she entered the contest because it would be something fun to do. "At my house, I'm always bothering my sister where the art stuff is."

Leavitt's poster displays the flags of lots of countries, including the United States, Israel and Iraq, around the outside edges.

"On the inside I just kind of made up a different kind of peace flag (with the peace symbol on it)," she said.

Leavitt colored the peace flag purple because "purple is a color you see every day. If everybody has peace in it, then it would be the peace flag for everyone and you'd see more purple."

With the peace flag in the center of her poster, Leavitt depicted "a guy from Russia, a person from the United States, a Chinese person and a Korean person. The people are my favorite part of the poster."

Hildebrand designed a poster that shows some of the world's

different flags to show that "everybody that lives in these countries plus love equals peace." He depicted a row of flags with large hearts in their centers above the flags and near the top of his poster.

The top of the poster bears equal signs on either side of a large multicolored peace symbol. "That peace symbol has lots of colors because there are lots of colors in the flags," he said.

Tetreault took a unique angle to portraying peace when creating her poster.

Instead of lots of flags, she created a peaceful scene with trees, a cabin and a person on a skating rink.

The scene she created with mostly colored markers gives her a peaceful feeling, she said.

Tetreault said she most likes the skating rink shown in her poster.

The Sundowners Lions Club poster contest is part of an international contest sponsored each year by Lions Clubs International. The international winner earns \$2,500 and an engraved plaque.

Armed Services YMCAs join observance

Activities, programs support worldwide celebration of Military Family Month

By Samantha L. Quigley

AFPS

WASHINGTON – It began about two decades ago as part of The Great American Family project.

Then, in 1996, the Armed Services YMCA expanded Military Family Week, which occurred around Thanksgiving, into Military Family Month, which begins Nov. 1.

And just like the week grew into a monthlong celebration, so too military families have been growing in number and percentage of force, said retired Navy

Rear Adm. Frank Gallo, director of the Armed Services YMCA.

"When I came in the service back in the Dark Ages, most of the troops were single. Everybody was single," he said. Now, he added, 65 percent to 70 percent of servicemembers are married, many with children.

This makes the family a big part of the military, and the health of those families is a big part of the readiness of the military, he said.

The ASYMCA, part of the national YMCA, is dedicated to supporting ongoing outreach activities for these families.

Unlike the national organization, the Armed Services YMCA, with the exception of the branch at Naval Station Bremerton, Wash., does not have physical fitness facilities. Instead, it provides childcare, counseling, singles centers, airport welcome centers and hospital programs, Gallo said.

As long as it's legal, moral and needed, "there's very little we will not try," he added.

The organization also tries to help ease the financial burden of

the families of guardsman and reservists, whose pay often drops when called to active duty.

Military Family Month puts a little extra focus on supporting families.

Part of what the ASYMCA does to help bases get ready to celebrate Military Family Month comes in a package they prepare and then the individual services mail to bases. The package includes posters to help advertise the month.

The posters are the product of an art contest directly tied to Military Family Month. The annual contest kicks off with family month and ends Feb. 14. Military family members in Grades K-6 from each service.

The posters' annual theme is "My Military Family." A winner from each service receives a \$500 savings bond; second-place finishers get \$100 bonds. Winning artwork is featured on the Military Family Month poster.

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DEERS unlocks door to TRICARE for family members

By Richard Gray
TriWest Info. Officer

Anyone not enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System can't make use of his or her TRICARE benefits. DEERS is one of the most important terms military families will hear and read about regarding the military health care system.

Because personal information in the DEERS database is essential to determining and maintaining a person's TRICARE eligibility, it is very important to keep that personal information updated in DEERS. This includes a change in address or family status such as marriages, births, adoptions, deaths and divorces.

Understanding DEERS

DEERS is a worldwide database of beneficiary information that shows a person's TRICARE eligibility. It contains such basic data as the military sponsor's name and Social Security number, address, contact information and family status of active duty family members, retirees and their families and other TRICARE-eligible individuals. TriWest Healthcare Alliance, the West Region TRICARE contractor for Fort Riley, also uses that contact information in DEERS to send beneficiaries important health care benefits updates.

Problems can arise if someone

fails to notify DEERS of a change. For example, TRICARE benefits can be denied or delayed if DEERS hasn't been updated to reflect a new spouse or child.

If a person's DEERS record is outdated or inaccurate, his or her TRICARE claims could be processed incorrectly and the person could be held responsible for reimbursing the government for those claims.

Divorce, another important status change, requires notification to DEERS immediately so eligibility changes can be recorded.

DEERS Registration

Active duty and retired military personnel are registered in

DEERS automatically, but eligible family members are required to register. This must be done in person at the nearest military personnel office or ID card-issuing facility.

Parents must be sure to enter newborns or newly adopted children into DEERS. Beginning Jan. 1, 2005, eligible beneficiaries will have 60 days to register their child in DEERS if he or she is to be enrolled in TRICARE Prime. To do that:

- Obtain a copy of the child's birth certificate, certificate of live birth (available from the hospital's medical records department), or adoption papers.

- The child's sponsor must take the appropriate document to the

nearest military base or post personnel office to register the child in DEERS.

If the sponsor is deployed or on temporary duty, the other parent or guardian should be prepared to show power of attorney to register the infant or adopted child in DEERS.

Updating DEERS

Keeping address and other information updated in DEERS is easy with four contact options:

- Visit the nearest military per-

sonnel office

- Fax changes to (831) 655-8317;

- Go online at www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERSAddress; or

- Mail changes to Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office, ATTN: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

For more information, contact the DEERS Support Office at (800) 538-9552 between 6 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday except for federal holidays.

Pet pain sometimes goes unnoticed

Veterinarian cautions owners about human medications

By Amber Haag
KSU

MANHATTAN — If your pet is whining a lot or having trouble getting comfortable to lie down, it is probably obvious to you that your pet is experiencing pain.

However, if your pet had dilated pupils, would you even notice?

Veterinarian Dr. William Fortney, assistant professor of diagnostic medicine pathobiology at Kansas State University, said pet owners don't always notice the less obvious signs that their pets are in pain.

"I think there are times animals

provide symptoms of pain that are obvious to owners," Fortney said.

"The other set of symptoms — if that's all the pet is showing — are not so obvious. Unfortunately, many animals are in some degree of pain and the owners don't recognize it because they don't recognize those behaviors are associated with pain," he said.

"Especially in older pets, owners unknowingly attribute some pain-related behaviors to getting old when they're actually usually caused by a treatable condition," Fortney cautioned.

Fortney said the most common behaviors associated with pain include dilated pupils, rapid/shal-

low breathing, hiding, anorexia, weight loss, lack of grooming, growling, twitching tail, crouching posture, whining, unable to get comfortable when lying down, biting and lack of interaction with owner.

Fortney said it's important for owners to recognize when there is a change in their pet's behavior.

"Their behavior can't always tell you where it hurts, but it tells you to get your pet checked out," Fortney said.

"Pain is not a disease but rather a symptom for some underlying condition. We have a much better chance of getting on top of those problems when you catch them

early," he said.

Fortney said the most important thing for pet owners to remember when their pet is in pain is that human medications are for humans, not for pets.

"You don't want to pull some of your medication off the shelf and give it to your pet, because that can cause more harm than good," Fortney said.

"Human medications have more side effects in dogs and cats. For example, giving Tylenol to your cat could be fatal.

"If your pet is in pain, it needs professional evaluation and properly prescribed pet medication," he said.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 13

Sports news in brief

KSU offers free hoops clinic

The Kansas State men's basketball program will offer a free clinic to kids in grades 1-7 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Nov. 13 at K-State's Ahearn Field House in Manhattan.

The clinic, which will include instruction by the coaching staff and players, will also give fans an opportunity to meet and interact with the team.

In addition to the clinic, each person in attendance will receive a complimentary ticket to K-State's game with Denver at 7 p.m. Nov. 24.

Individuals can register for the free clinic by calling the men's basketball office at (785) 532-6531 or (800) 651-4667.

Fall Classic runs Nov. 14

The Flint Hills Fall Classic 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for Nov. 14 at Eastside Ahearn Field House on the Kansas State University campus in Manhattan. Registration and packet pick-up is scheduled from 8 to 9:30 a.m. with race start at 10 a.m.

Parking is available at the Student Union at 17th Street and Anderson Avenue.

Outdoor writers slate auction

Items for the angler, hunter, camper and collector will be offered during the Kansas Outdoor Writers Fall Conference public auction at 7 p.m. Nov. 22 at the Geary County Convention Center in Junction City.

The auction is used as a fund-raiser to send youth to outdoor camps.

Items at the auction include fishing, hunting, camping gear and outdoor artwork.

For more information, call Connie Hall, executive director, Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau, at 238-2885 or (800) 528-2489.

NAIA men set for soccer play

The NAIA National Collegiate Men's Soccer Championship will be hosted at the Olathe District Activity Center, 21201 W. 159th St., Nov. 11-23.

For more information, call (913) 764-1050 or (800) 921-5678.

Post wrestling tourney set

The 2004 Fort Riley Post Wrestling Tournament will be Jan. 10-12 at King Field House. Competition starts at 6 p.m. nightly. A battalion may organize one men's team and one women's team, each consisting of 10 wrestlers.

All wrestlers pass a physical exam within two weeks of the initial mandatory weigh-in scheduled for Nov. 15. A copy of the physical must be turned in at the time of the weigh-in.

All wrestlers must make the weigh-in between 8 and 10 a.m. Nov. 15 in order to be eligible to compete.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

Army bull rider clenches title

Army News Service

The Army celebrated its first Professional Bull Riding title as 21-year-old Mike Lee clinched the Built Ford Tough Series World Championship Oct. 31 at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas.

The Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard performed during the PBR rodeo competi-

tion. Lee set a record by winning the overall PBR World Championship title and the Built Ford Tough World Finals Championship, which is awarded to the bull rider who scores the most points in the seven-day competition.

"I'm so proud to bring home the championship not only for my family and me, but for all of the Soldiers protecting our freedom

around the world," Lee said.

"I am blessed with a great group of supporters and even though I am the only one out there on the back of that bull, I could not have come out with the title without this team behind me."

Wearing the signature black and gold colors of the U.S. Army, Lee conquered Geronimo in the seventh round to seal his third consecutive win and boost his

overall standings in the BFTS.

Lee then met Mossy Oak Mud-slinger in the short round and held on for a full eight seconds to earn a total of 12,138.24 points for the year and clinch the BFTS World Championship.

"We could not be more proud of Mike for this tremendous accomplishment in the first year of the Army's relationship with PBR," said Col. Thomas Nickerson, director of Strategic Outreach for U.S. Army Accessions Command.

Lee's win is the second professional championship title for the Army this year. On Oct. 10, Tony Schumacher piloted the U.S. Army Top Fuel dragster to victory at Maple Grove Raceway in Reading, Penn., to capture the 2004 NHRA POWERade Top Fuel World Championship.

Post champs



Post/Heronemus

MP quarterback Ryan Thiel cocks his arm to pass in the Fort Riley flag football championship game Nov. 8 at Sturgis Stadium as MEDDAC defenders Francisco Bernal (front) and Ronald Henderson rush.

MEDDAC prevails in final quarter

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

U.S. Army Medical Department notched another win on their sports pistol Nov. 8, defeating the 342nd Military Police Company 14-13 to claim the post's flag football crown.

The Soldier Medics came from behind in the last quarter to win the title against a team they hadn't played before and one that just recently won the 924th Military Police Battalion's Pig Bowl trophy in the same sport.

MEDDAC Coach Forika McDougald praised the MPs' disciplined play. "You could tell they had obviously practiced a lot. They ran plays well."

"We couldn't run well against their defense because they were so disciplined," he said.

McDougald opted for MEDDAC's tried and proven offense to finally overcome the MPs. "All season we've scored on long runs with a dump (pass) near the end zone," he said. That worked again for the Soldier Medics on the final touchdown of the game.

The double pass rule that confused several post teams this season worked well for MEDDAC in the semi-finals, McDougald said. "A double pass on the 12th play of the

game put us in the championship," he said.

The MPs started out strong, overcoming a first-play protecting-the-flag penalty with a combination run and pass play that took them to the opponent's 10-yard line.

Three plays later, Anthony Saunders scored on an MP pass for the game's first touchdown. The MPs converted the three-yard point after touchdown attempt to take a 7-0 lead in the first quarter.

Several penalties hampered the MPs' offense throughout the first half, but it didn't hurt their defense. They held the Soldier Medics scoreless until McDougald ran in for MEDDAC's first score early in the quarter.

The Soldier Medics tied the score at 7-7 with a successful pass play and the MPs took over on the quarter's seventh play (12 plays total are allowed in each quarter).

The MPs' Mike Cox was upended early in the fourth quarter while catching a pass, but the score counted and MEDDAC found itself trailing 13-7.

The MEDDAC defense stiffened and forced an incomplete pass to keep the post championship within reach.

When a MEDDAC player caught a tipped pass then passed to another player across mid-field, MEDDAC fans were tasting victory.

See Champs, Page 14

Tournament scores

Round 1

300th MP vs. Co. C, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor - both teams forfeited
568th CSE defeated 10th ASOS, 39-19

15th PSB defeated Rear "D," 1st Bn., 16th Inf., 21-6
HHD, 24th ID, defeated Co. A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., 33-6
24th Trans. Co. won by forfeit against 523rd MP Co.

172nd Chemical Co. won by forfeit against 596th Signal Co.
342nd MP and USA MEDDAC received byes

Quarterfinals

USA MEDDAC received a bye after forfeits from 300th MP and Co. C, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, in Round 1
15th PSB defeated 568th CSE, 21-20
HHD, 24th ID, defeated 24th Trans. Co., 24-16
342nd MP Co. defeated 172nd Chemical Co., 18-13

Semifinals

USA MEDDAC defeated 15th PSB, 20-14
342nd MP Co. defeated HHD, 24th ID, 26-19

Army team places fourth

Leavenworth officer leads marathoners

By Tim Hipps

Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — Maj. Liam Collins led the All-Army team to a fourth-place finish in the 2004 Armed Forces Marathon Championships run in conjunction with the 29th Marine Corps Marathon Oct. 31.

Collins, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., finished 18th with a time of 2 hours, 38 minutes and 13 seconds.

The Armed Forces team standings were determined by combining the times of the top three male and first female finishers. Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Vandervlugt (2:45:17) of Albany, Ore.; Spc. Nathan Pennington (2:51:45) of Fort Carson, Colo.; and 2nd Lt. Sage Stefiuk (3:06:36) of Fort Bragg, N.C., rounded out the scoring for the All-Army squad, which had a cumulative time of 11:21:51.

Second Lt. Mark Davis (2:54:36) of Fort Campbell, Ky.; Sgt. 1st Class Gary Brimmer (3:06:34) of Fort Hood, Tex.; Maj. Jacqueline Chen (3:11:43) of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany; and Maj. Margaret Bozgoz (3:21:04) of Fort McPherson, Ga., also ran for the All-Army team.

Marine Corps Capt. Mary Kate Bailey ran unchallenged for the final 12 miles to win the women's open division in 2:48:31. She helped the All-Marine team capture the Armed Forces title with a time of 10:38:05.

Air Force Maj. Chris Juarez, winner of the 2002 Marine Corps Marathon, led all military runners with a third-place finish in 2:26:03.

The All-Air Force squad finished second in the Armed Forces standings with a time of 10:52:49.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kimberly Fagen of San Diego was the second female finisher with a personal-best time of 2:51:17, helping the All-Navy team take third.

Tallgrass prairie covers Fort Riley, Flint Hills



Alan Hynek

By Alan Hynek

Fish and Wildlife Biologist
DES, Conservation Division

As Lewis and Clark made their way up the Missouri river in 1804, they came upon an unexpected discovery. In the Northeast corner of Kansas they took a left turn up a smaller, yet mighty river later to be named the Kaw.

What they did not anticipate was

the end of the deciduous forest and the beginning of the tallgrass prairie.

They had never seen or heard of a prairie like this before. The grasses in the fall of the year were sometimes head-high to a person. Not only were the prairie plants strange, but the wildlife as well.

Prairie animals like bison and prairie dogs were first encountered on their brief stint up the Kaw River. To

On the Wildside: News About Nature

the explorers, it was almost like entering a new world.

Today, less than 5 percent of the original tallgrass prairie remains unbroken and in good condition. It is considered by many to be the most endangered ecosystem in North America.

Most of the remaining acres of tallgrass prairie are in the Flint Hills of Kansas and Oklahoma, simply

because the ground was too rocky and the soil too shallow to be useful for crop production.

To the east of Fort Riley, most of the remaining tallgrass prairie is found in small hay meadows. States like Missouri have only a few fragments of tallgrass prairie remaining.

Fort Riley is located on the northern edge of the Flint Hills. You can see the characteristic rolling hills on

Wildside, Page 14





Fort Riley Middle School's Kayla Soper tries to fight through the defense of Topeka Logan's Rachel Chilson as fellow Trooper Kalae Maio (12) tries to break free from Jennifer Crouse (10) and Fort Riley's Kimberlyn Phelps battles Mercedes Overstreet during the Troopers' 34-9 loss to the Lady Raiders Nov. 2 in Girls C team basketball action.

Post/Hardesty

Lady Troopers fall to Logan

By J.D. Hardesty
Staff writer

Topeka Logan swept Fort Riley Middle School 39-9 in seventh-grade girls C and 29-22 in girls D basketball team action on post Nov. 2.

Logan's Allison Farr led the Lady Raiders with 10 points and

Rachel Chilson added six as the much taller Topeka starters dominated the first half, building a commanding 18-5 lead in the first half.

Cheyenne Schlaack, Jamie Zvirgidsins, Kayla Soper and Christina Valentin scored two points apiece to lead the Troopers.

The Lady Raiders dominated

throughout the game as they built a 28-7 lead at the start of the fourth quarter.

In the D game, Victoria Hill scored all her eight points in the fourth quarter, but the Troopers' second-half rally fell short.

Mercedes Overstreet scored eight of her game-high 10 points in the first half, and Taylor Finley

tossed in six as the Lady Raiders built a commanding 23-6 halftime lead over the Troopers.

Lauren Apodaca, Kaitlyn Hernandez, Natalya Carroll and Kimberlyn Phelps tossed in two-points each in the second half as the Troopers climbed to within 27-12 at the end of the third quarter.

Wildside

continued from page 13

the southern and eastern parts of the installation.

The western part of Fort Riley begins the subtle transition to the Smoky Hills region of Kansas. Across the installation, a host of indigenous wildlife such as greater prairie chicken, Henslow's sparrow and elk can be found, even as they are increasingly rare or absent elsewhere.

Lesser known species like prairie mole crickets and the regal fritillary butterfly are also present on Fort Riley, which are indicative of the quality of habitat found on the installation.

Although this area receives enough rainfall to produce an abundance of trees, the occasional wildfire kept the forested areas confined to narrow belts along major streams.

There was nothing to stop the fires except for the large rivers

and rainfall.

Today, landowners mimic the natural fires by setting prescribed burns in the spring of the year. These fires are critical to keeping the prairies in good condition.

Many factors have shaped the landscape of the Flint Hills from drought, flood, fire, extreme heat and cold.

The many plants and wildlife that inhabit the tallgrass prairie have adapted to life out here on the plains. We see influence from the deserts of the southwest, the deciduous forest to the east and prairie to the north.

In essence, it is where east meets west and north meets south. Therein lies the subtle beauty of the Flint Hills of Kansas.

For more information on the tallgrass prairie, stop by the Conservation Division at Building 1020 or call 239-6211.

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Custer Hill Lanes Bowling Results

(As of Nov. 2)

Friday Night Mixed League			Officers' Wives' Club League		
Team	Points Won	Points Lost	Team	Points Won	Points Lost
Red Dog Express	24.0	8.0	Queen Pins	19.0	9.0
Team On A Mission	20.0	12.0	Babes With Balls	18.0	10.0
Stella's Angels	20.0	12.0	Bowldacious Babes	17.0	11.0
OSIMA	19.0	13.0	The Hot Flashes	15.0	13.0
TGIF	18.0	14.0	Grannas On A Roll	14.0	14.0
Team 5	16.0	16.0	Vacant Team	12.0	16.0
SE Strike Force	16.0	16.0	Strike Force	9.0	19.0
Team 9	15.0	17.0	Spare Balls	5.0	23.0
Crazy Eights	14.0	18.0	High Game Handicap-To Date		
Survivors	11.0	21.0	Strike Force	663	
Team 6	9.0	23.0	The Hot Flashes	637	
Only On Fridays	9.0	23.0	High Series Handicap-To Date		
Team 13	2.5	1.5	Bowldacious Babes	1,773	
Team 14	1.2	2.5	Queen Pins	1,727	
High Game Handicap-To Date			Score		
TGIF	946		Score		
SE Strike Force	884		Score		
High Series Handicap-To Date			Score		
OSIMA	2,521		Score		
Team On A Mission	2,469		Score		

NOTE: Custer Hill Lanes submits standings to the Fort Riley Post. Teams earn a point for each game won plus one point is awarded to the team with the most pins in the three-game match. Teams receive a point lost for each game lost in a match.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS
3 x 11"
Black Only
3x11charter03545314

Champs

continued from page 13

Like many plays during the evening, refs called this one back because of an illegal block and MEDDAC faced long yardage again.

After a long pass fell incomplete, the Soldier Medics put together a double pass play that carried them to the MPs' 23-yard line.

A short pass over the middle to George Rush put MEDDAC even with the MPs and a flip to Gary Moore added the winning point.

The MPs used two plays to get close to another touchdown, but a penalty moved them back, and a MEDDAC defender knocked down a long 12th-play pass in the end zone to end the game.

"I expected a tough game," said MP Coach Saunders, "but I didn't expect so many penalties." Both teams were called for numerous penalties.

"Our emotions got the better of us sometimes," he said.

The double pass rule put the MPs in unfamiliar territory. "We played single pass in Guantanamo, we weren't used to the double pass offense," Saunders said.

During the awards presentation, the MPs were complimented on having the largest number of fans at the game.

PATRICIA'S UNDERCOVER
2 x 6"
Black Only
2x6 PATRICIA'S UNDERCOVER





Travel & Fun in Kansas

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America's Warfighting Center

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

Leisuretime ideas

Russell:

What: Veterans Day Parade
When: 10 a.m. Nov. 11
Where: Main Street
Phone: (785) 483-6960 or (800) 658-4686
Admission: Free

El Dorado:

What: Celebration of Freedom honoring all veterans and those who work to preserve the nation's freedom.
When: Nov. 10-12
Where: City wide
Phone: (316) 321-3150
Admission: Free

Emporia:

What: Veterans Tribute, Founding city of Veterans Day, parade, memorial services, USO show, military field base, programs and exhibits.
When: Nov. 11-14
Where: Downtown and all veterans memorials
Phone: (620) 342-1803 or (800) 279-3730
Admission: Free

Wichita:

What: Light Screens: The Leaded Glass of Frank Lloyd Wright. This exhibition is the centerpiece of a celebration focusing on Frank Lloyd Wright and features about 50 spectacular windows.
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays; noon to 5 p.m. Sundays through Jan. 30.
Where: Wichita Art Museum, 1400 W. Museum Boulevard
Phone: (316) 268-4985
Admission: Adults \$5; seniors and students with ID \$4; children 5-17 \$2

Beaumont:

What: Motorcycle ride-in breakfast second Sunday of each month.
When: Nov. 14
Where: 11651 SE Main
Phone: (620) 843-2422
Admission: Free, except for cost of breakfast

Leavenworth:

What: Annual charity Harlem Ambassadors basketball show.
When: 7 to 9:30 p.m. Nov. 13
Where: Leavenworth High School Gym
Phone: (913) 651-6810
Admission: \$5 to \$7

Ottawa:

What: Sixth annual home-made holiday craft show featuring more than 100 booths of handmade craft items.
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 13

Where: Ottawa Middle School, 1230 S. Ash St.
Phone: (785) 242-8618
Admission: \$30 for vendors, no charge to the public

Topeka:

What: Christmas in the Country. Area antique shops open houses, homes tour including Historic Sage Inn, book signings by Kansas authors, jamboree, lunch, period dress.
When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 13; 1 to 4 p.m. Nov. 14
Where: 15 miles southwest of Topeka on Kansas Highway 4, Dover
Phone: (785) 256-6050
Admission: \$5

Girard:

What: Fifteenth annual Southeast Kansas Farm Toy Show. Collectors and the public can look, buy, sell and trade.
When: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 14
Where: St. Michael's Hall, 511 W. Walnut
Phone: (620) 724-6166
Admission: \$2

Manhattan:

What: Wrap It Up Sale and Exhibit. Exhibit and sale of works by local and regional artists. New works added daily.
When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday through Jan. 3
Where: Manhattan Arts Center
Phone: (785) 537-4420
Admission: No charge

Abilene:

What: Lebold Mansion Christmas Tours. Christmas décor of 1880s Victorian home.
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 16 through Jan. 2
Where: 106 N. Vine
Phone: (785) 263-4356
Admission: \$10

Yates Center:

What: Yates Center Christmas Open House. Christmas lights outlining town square and courthouse, carriage rides, merchant window displays, carolers and open houses.
When: Nov. 14 through Dec. 31

Where: Town Square
Phone: (620) 625-3235
Admission: Free

Beloit:

What: Annual Veterans Day Parade with BBQ.
When: 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 11
Where: Downtown
Phone: (785) 738-3988
Admission: Free

Small town boasts expansive history

By Marvin Baker
 129th MPAD

COUNCIL GROVE — Mixing historical significance with modern amenities, tourism in this Santa Fe Trail community has returned the hustle and bustle it experienced during America's westward expansion.

Wagon trains that traversed the trail through Council Grove by the hundreds through the 1840s have given way to asphalt trails traveled by sports cars, recreational vehicles and 16-wheelers.

A territorial Indian reservation is gone but not forgotten, and the seemingly lawless men of the Kansas frontier exist today only in name. Historic and modern links to Fort Riley are also evident.

The historic sites remain mostly intact, drawing visitors from all over the world. It takes a significant amount of work to maintain them, according to a Loretta Keyser, a Council Grove tour guide. However, local residents insist a strong pride in the community saved the sites and helped develop new tourist attractions, increasing traffic significantly and returning Council Grove, population about 2,200, to its territorial prominence.

One of the interesting things about Council Grove's historic sites is that children enjoy many of them, Keyser said. Other sites appeal to historians, Soldiers and their families. "We try to keep Council Grove beautiful and safe, as well as historic," she said.

The 21 sites, most of which are on the National Register of Historic Places, the National Historic Santa Fe Trail List or the Council Grove National Historic Landmark District, offer something for everyone.

The original sites are the Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Old Bell Monument, Hermit's Cave, Last Chance Store, Santa Fe Trail Ruts, Cottage House Hotel, Farmers and Drovers Bank, Conn



129th PAD
 This oak tree along the Santa Fe Trail in Council Grove once served as the local post office.

Stone Store, Council Grove National Bank Building, Hays House, Seth Hays Home, Custer Elm, Neosho River Crossing, Post Office Oak and Museum, Council Oak, Terwilliger Home and Old Stone Barn.

More recent additions include The Madonna of the Trail, Durland Park, Neosho Riverwalk and Guardian of the Grove.

In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers developed Council Grove City Lake, which is a fishing and boating area. The lake is open to the public, but special licenses may be required.

South of town, in Chase County, is the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

Council Grove is the Morris County seat and contains its own shopping district substantial enough to support the community and the surrounding farm population.

But it's the historic sites that

really make this town tick, said Diane Nusbbaum, of the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Some delightful Old West stories float around town as well as the Civil War significance that is linked to Fort Riley's early days, Nusbbaum said.

"What's unique is this was the rendezvous spot for wagon trains headed west," Nusbbaum said. "It was the last place they would find water and wood. Almost all historic sites have something to do with the Santa Fe Trail."

The Santa Fe Trail began in August 1825. It stretched from Franklin, Mo., to Santa Fe, N.M. It was a right-of-way obtained through a treaty with the Osage Indian tribe that was supposed to guarantee safe passage to the southwest. By 1880, railroads forced the trail to fade into history. The busiest time on the Kansas section was in the 1840s, Nusbbaum said.

History claims George Custer camped under the Custer Elm and signed a treaty with the Indians.

The Hays House is the longest continually operating restaurant west of the Mississippi River and is now one of the best restaurants in Kansas.

The Kaw Mission was built by the U.S. government to teach Indian children western ways.

The Post Office Oak is where westbound pioneers dropped letters and those going east picked them up.

The Terwilliger House and Bakery uses recipes from the 1860s.

Farmers and Drovers Bank employees sometimes talk about banking during territorial days.

Each site has its own story. Self-guiding tour brochures showing the sites are usually available at each site.

Anyone interested in reserving guided tours and learning about the costs should contact Nusbbaum's office at 1-800-732-9211, or log on to the CVB Web site at www.councilgrove.com.

KSU music programs

MANHATTAN — Kansas State University's department of music will present several events in November. All performances are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

For the most recent schedule, visit www.k-state.edu/music on the Web.

Upcoming events include:
Nov. 11: The K-State Faculty Brass Quintet performs at 7:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 14: K-State Flutes, conducted by Mary Lee Cochran, perform at 1 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 14: K-State ensemble Collegium Musicum, conducted by Bruce Gbur, performs at 3 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 15: K-State faculty member Eduardo Orozco, piano, performs at 7:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 16: Sticks and strings student recital begins at 7:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 18: General student recital begins at 11:30 a.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 18: Guest artist Johannes Dietrich, violin, performs at 7:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

Nov. 21: The K-State Marching Band, conducted by Frank Tracz and Scott Lubaroff, performs at 4 p.m. in Ahearn Field House.

Nov. 22: K-State Jazz Ensembles, conducted by Craig Treinen and Kurt Gartner, perform at 7:30 p.m. in McCain Auditorium.

Nov. 29: Horn student recital and the studio of Jacqueline Fassler-Kerstetter perform at 6 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel Auditorium.

At the Movies

The Barlow Post Theater Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Shows begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for Children 5 to 11 years old and free for children under age 5, except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

Nov. 11 — The Forgotten (PG-13)

Nov. 12 — Ladder 49 (PG-13)

Nov. 13 — First Daughter (PG)

Nov. 14 — Ladder 49 (PG-13)

Nov. 18 — Raise Your Voice (PG)

Nov. 19 — Friday Night Lights (PG-13)

Nov. 20 — Shark Tale (PG)

Nov. 21 — Taxi (PG-13)

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

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